



HAZING PREVENTION

18 July 2014

1. **The young Marine is the most important person in this Battalion.** We will train, educate, coach, mentor, inspire, and challenge him. We will never abuse him. **HAZING is abuse - and it is the act of cowards.**

2. Hazing comes in many forms, including any rite of passage outside of Recruit Training/OCS, initiations, unofficial ceremonies, and simply "joking around" where Marines or Sailors degrade, dehumanize, insult, or injure others, voluntarily and involuntarily. Hazing is abuse that includes, but is not limited to, any form of initiation or congratulatory act that involves physically striking another to inflict pain, piercing another's skin in any manner, verbally berating another, encouraging another to excessively consume alcohol, or encouraging another to engage in illegal, harmful, demeaning or dangerous acts. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military members- it can be verbal or psychological in nature. You are not allowed to consent to be hazed. A few specific examples of hazing:

- Chevron pinning's at a promotion
- Blood striping
- Incentive PT
- Following your weapon with push-ups
- Taking the "new guys" out to "break them in"
- Grabbing and throwing around Marines for discipline
- "Taking them out back to teach them a lesson"
- Assigning stupid "screw with the new guys" tasks
- Telling Marines they must shave their head until after ITX or UDP
- Making new Marines carry "PTA Rocks" during their first Lava Viper

3. When a Marine uses his rank or "experience" to physically or mentally abuse, threaten, harass, beat or screw with another Marine - he has surrendered the moral high ground - and has surrendered all of his authority. It takes no talent, skill or leadership to haze a subordinate. **True professionals & leaders inspire and develop their subordinates.**

4. Every Marine or Sailor in 2/3 will be treated with fairness and maturity. I charge every leader on our team, at every rank, to **eradicate and prevent hazing within our team** through alert, engaged leadership, using every legal, ethical, and moral tool at your disposal. If you suspect or see hazing, even if someone "volunteers" to be hazed, report it to the SgtMaj and I through your chain of command. If you think that is not working, then use the Request Mast process to ensure it is reported.

5. Remember - positive leadership creates capable followers. **Hazing destroys cohesion, breeds hate - and is the act of a coward.** Our success as a team depends on our ability to make each other successful. Hazing works against our team and impedes success. I will not tolerate hazing. Take care of our men.



B.P. Coyne
Commanding Officer



S.W. Stutler
Sergeant Major
2d Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division